

# Heart Disease:

## *The Number One Health Problem for Women*

### Satellite Conference

**Thursday, February 24, 2005 • 9:00-11:00 a.m. (Central Time)**  
*10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) • 8:00-10:00 a.m. (Mountain Time) • 7:00-9:00 a.m. (Pacific Time)*

**L**ong thought of as primarily affecting men, we now know that Cardiovascular Disease - including heart disease, hypertension, and stroke - also affects a substantial number of women. In fact, CVD is the number one cause of death in women in the United States and the developed world. Over 500,000 women died of CVD in the United States last year and this number now exceeds the next seven causes of death in women combined. Experts estimate that one in two women now die of heart disease or stroke, compared with one in 25 women who die of breast cancer.

Coronary artery disease accounts for the majority of heart disease deaths in women. Current statistics reveal significant differences between men and women in survival following a heart attack. For example, 42 percent of women who have heart attacks die within 1 year compared with 24 percent of men. While the reasons for this are not well understood, research has shown that women may not be diagnosed or treated as aggressively as men, and their symptoms may be very different from those of men who are having a heart attack. In addition, new studies indicate that men and women react differently to drugs prescribed for heart disease.

Differences between white and black women in heart disease mortality are also substantial. Deaths due to heart disease are about two-thirds higher among black women than among white women. However, heart disease mortality is lower among Hispanic, American Indian, and Asian/Pacific Islander women compared with white women.

An increase in heart disease research with women has led to changes in the practice and protocol for successfully managing CVD manifestations and treatment in women.

#### Faculty:

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#### Program Objectives:

1. To review new information regarding estrogen replacement and risk of CHD and stroke in women.
2. To review coronary artery disease in women including the different presentation symptoms and the various responses to therapy.
3. To review the evaluation and treatment of cardiac arrhythmias in women.
4. To review the modification of risk factors for coronary heart disease in women.

#### Conference Details:

Target Audience: Nurses, Registered Dietitians, Social Workers and Health Educators

CEUs: Nurses (2.1 hours), Registered Dietitians (2.0 hours) and Social Workers (1.75 hours)

Registration: [www.adph.org/alphtn](http://www.adph.org/alphtn) Cost: No cost to view

Satellite Technical Information: This program will be a live satellite broadcast on both Ku & C bands. You will need a satellite downlink system to view this program.

Webcast Information: This program will be available as an on-demand webcast approximately two days after the live satellite broadcast. To access this webcast, [www.adph.org/alphtn](http://www.adph.org/alphtn) (click On-Demand Webcasts).

Conference Materials: Posted on website approximately one week before the program.

Questions: [alphtn@adph.state.al.us](mailto:alphtn@adph.state.al.us) or 334-206-5618.

Issues or questions you want addressed during the conference?

Email ([alphtn@adph.state.al.us](mailto:alphtn@adph.state.al.us)) or fax (334-206-5640) the conference faculty and they will respond during the program.